## P.O. Box 1012 Washougal, WA 98671

January 23, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft US Department of Justice 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

I am of the opinion that the settlement that was reached between Microsoft and the Department of Justice is more than fair, and I hope to see it implemented as soon as possible. For too long now our economy has been suffering, and ending this legal dispute is the best remedy. Remember, the economic slide started when the government first sued Microsoft.

The settlement that was reached has teeth, and Microsoft did not get off all that easy. However, it was in the best interests of the technology industry, consumers, and the economy to get this issue over with as soon as possible. Microsoft has agreed to give to its competitors source code and other design information for the Windows operating system. This allows competitors the ability to produce software that is compatible with Microsoft's, and they will not have to worry about retaliation from Microsoft since the agreed not to go after companies that try to compete.

All in all, I am satisfied with the settlement. Please implement it as soon as possible. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jake Lawlor

Jacob Lawlor